

BIR Sunrise



BIR Sunrise is a publication for BIR students and is produced by the BIR Journalism Club. Views and opinions expressed are those of the students, not those of BIR Training Center.

Many Polish Students Take English Classes and Workshops at BIR's Belmont Campus

By Munkhbold Byambasuren

If you have ever wanted to make friends with Polish students, BIR's Belmont Campus is a good place to visit. Admissions Counselor Barbara Mikalska says the Belmont Campus is open seven days a week and features classes and workshops for students wanting to enhance their English reading and writing. Business English Streaming Workshops are also held there. "The Belmont campus area includes nearby Polish restaurants and nightclubs. BIR's Belmont campus is a good place to make friends with students from Poland and other countries," she says. The campus is located at 6240 W. Belmont St., Chicago.

Wabash Campus

By Ileana Druc

The Medical Assisting Program at the Wabash Campus has two laboratories for students studying phlebotomy and pharmacology. BIR's Kathaleya Chung says students learn how to draw blood and use an EKG machine that monitors a pa-

tient's heartbeat. Students also learn how to work in a doctor's office environment as part of their training. The Wabash Campus is located at 828 S. Wabash Ave., Suite 295 in Chicago.

Devon Campus

Derek Chong will be BIR's new Dean of Faculty beginning in July. Chong also has taught TOEFL classes and business workshops at BIR.

Summertime



BIR summer classes and workshops

begin on July 6. Registration begins on June 19. To register

for classes, visit the student portal at www.birtraining.edu

Taste of Chicago and Air and Water Show Highlight Summertime Fun

By Punpid Khomhomrune

Chicago in summer is a sight to behold. The parks are lush. Here are some favorite summer things to do in Chicago. **Taste of Chicago** at Grant Park has grown to be the world's largest outdoor food fest. It has great food and music. About 3 million people attend each year. The Taste

will be held from June 26 to July 5.

On August 15-16, the **Chicago Air and Water Show**



will draw over 2 million people. The show is at Lake Michigan from Oak Street Beach to Fullerton Avenue.

Volume 1, Issue 2

July 2009

Michael Kegler Helps Students on F1 Status Issues

By Ileana Druc

BIR's Manager of the Office of International Student Services, Michael Kegler, says it's his job to keep international student records up to date and to advise students on their F1 visa status.

"I try to study the F1 student regulations to understand them better. If students understand the rules, they will have a more enjoyable learning experience," he says.

Kegler adds that he believes students study at BIR because of the unique combination of excellent teachers, interesting programs, and affordable tuition.

"Many students come to BIR because they know a friend who studied here," he says. Kegler adds that most BIR students are from Poland, Thailand, and India.



Bollywood: The Factory That Manufactures 800 Indian Movies Annually

By Kashif Syed

Bollywood is the nickname for the Indian film industry that releases over 800 films each year. Indians love movies about love and affection. They also enjoy movies with songs and dancing.

More than 14 million Indians go to the movies every day. This amounts to about 2 percent of the country's total population of 1.1 billion.

Bollywood employs people from all

parts of India. It attracts thousands of actors and actresses. Many people hope and dream of becoming a star.

Well-paid Stars in Bollywood

The stars of Bollywood are very popular and highly paid. The lead star in a film may receive nearly \$1 million. Photographs of Bollywood stars grace shop windows and homes throughout the country.

Dialogue for Bollywood films is usually

written in an unadorned Hindi, Urdu, or Hindustani, but some Bollywood films use regional dialects to suggest a historical film or old-fashioned setting.

The Filmfare Awards ceremony is one of the most prominent film events given for Hindi films in India. Like the American Academy Awards, the Filmfare Awards are sometimes accused of favoring big box-office films rather than those of artistic merit.

BIR Students Face to Face With FBI at Obama's Chicago Speech

By Hosana Wittica

Casia Holmgren, an instructor at BIR for five years, decided to take her students for an outing to see history in the making, President Obama's acceptance speech given at Grant Park last November. They were excited and considered this a life experience but didn't know what to expect.

FBI Agent Came Up to Them

The event was enormous with massive structures, media from all around the world and overwhelming security. The class was standing by the metal dinosaur in Millennium Park. The teacher wanted to take their picture.

"I wanted to offer my students this lifetime experience so they could take it home and share with their families and friends." —*Casia Holmgren*

Suddenly, an FBI agent came up to them and said they would have to leave the area immediately.

All the students were confused by the officer's attitude and when asked what the problem was, he answered that the area was an FBI base zone and the dinosaur was wired with sensitive microphones.

All the students and the teacher had a good laugh about it, especially when they asked the officer to take their picture, and he kindly offered to take it. The teacher said that they wanted a picture with the officer, and a



very long no was heard, and the officer left.

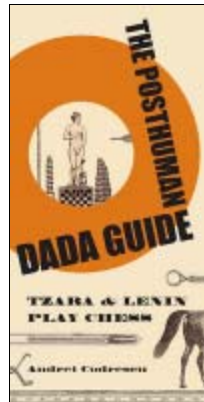
Windy City Dinosaur sculpture at Millennium Park was used as base zone by the FBI.

Andrei Codrescu Pens New Tale About Dadaists

By Marian Petruta

Recently, I interviewed poet, writer, and National Public Radio commentator Andrei Codrescu about his new book, *The Posthuman Guide: Tzara and Lenin Play Chess*.

Why a book about Dadaism? I have the opportunity to talk about the ideas in the 20th Cen-



tury, which are still haunting us. Tristan Tzara, a Jewish-Romanian national born in Moinesti, is one of the most important artistic figures. He was a refugee living in Zurich at the beginning of World War II. In 1915, he met Lenin, and I imag-

ine a game of chess between the two in a café full of refugee immigrants, poets, artists, dreamers.

Why should people be interested in this topic? We need Dadaism more than before. In crisis, we can see how art comes to the rescue of people. That is because art uses different tools than the economy. Art works through values that we do not remember when things are going well. So it's crucial that we focus on art in this economic crisis.

Dada was born in the middle of a world crisis during the First World War. Dadaists were opposing the logic of economics at that time because they saw how money was spent in a wasteful war. They saw how economic ideologies brought them to war, how Marx and Lenin's ideas took us into a permanent war in the 20th Century.

Will the book be published in Romanian? Yes, there will be a translation of the book that will be published in the fall. I'm sure the book's ideas will be very controversial.

You immigrated to America over 40 years ago at an age when young people get assimilated into the adopted country. In your books you mention Romania so often. Why? I was born in Romania and after the fall of Communism, I returned to Romania to write documentaries about the Romanian revolution. I never thought there was a contradiction between all those identities. I don't believe in assimilation, but in accumulation.

Journalism Club Teacher Focuses on Student Writing and Creativity

By Aneliya Aleksandrova

Recently, *BIR Sunrise* interviewed Journalism Club's instructor Jan Wiezorek.

Why do you like teaching poetry at BIR? I am very interested in the creative side of the students. That appears through their writing in both journalism and poetry.

Is Journalism Club a challenge for you? Yes, because we have a deadline. In six weeks we produce our stories and present a finished product in the most well-crafted way we can.

What has surprised you the most in student's work? Their good ideas and the editorial skills they possess.

Tell us more about your career! Before teaching I wrote and edited for a number of trade organizations in real estate and health care. But I like teaching

best because there are more interactions with students. Every day is different at school.

What else do you do besides teaching? I like to bike along the lake. I particularly enjoy Montrose Harbor because of the bird watching area that is there.

When did you feel that you have accomplished something with the students at BIR? When our first newsletter was launched in May 2009.

How do you like Chicago? I enjoy the lakefront, all museums, and the cultural opportunities here.

Mr. Wiezorek also finds classical music very delightful, and he likes to eat pizza.

Journalism Club members receive a certificate after successfully completing three or more workshops. We seek new members to enhance our publication.

See more student writing at the Newsletter (Sunrise) folder in Student Resources.

BIR Training Center
3601 West Devon Avenue
Chicago, IL 60659

Phone: 773-866-0111
Fax: 773-866-0113
www.birtraining.edu

To learn how to write poems is something very exciting for me. It helps me move forward with my life. Possessing new skills could be feasible in the future. Creativity is very important for me. It gives me freedom to make the right decisions and take the next steps. It also gives me the opportunity to think over and convey my feelings about different occasions in my life. Writing poems makes me really happy.”

—BIR Journalism Club
writer Aneliya Aleksandrova

BIR Journalists Say Chicago's Great

By Ileana Druc

Ninety percent of students surveyed in the Devon campus Journalism Club say Chicago is a great city. It is a place of opportunity that is continually developing. Chicago has great museums, universities, culture, and a gathering of people from all over the world.

“Chicago is great because it has attractions that please all,” says student Hosana Witicca. Another student, Hus-sain Shaik, agrees: “In Chi-

cago you will find people from all over the world.” When visiting downtown, students say they like shopping, picture taking, or walking. “I like the moment when the Brown Line train stops for a while to let people observe downtown,” says Ekaterina Egorova.



Shedd Aquarium Now Ready

By Prapaporn Khantanas

Chicago's Shedd Aquarium is the biggest indoor aquarium in the world.

It contains more than 2,000 species of fish and marine mammals. The Shedd

opened its Oceanarium in

1991, but recently it had

been closed for remodeling. Now, the Oceanarium is ready for summer fun.

One popular exhibit is the Caribbean Coral Reef. Enjoy the aquarium this summer!



While the overwhelming majority of surveyed students don't like the harsh winters, cold or wind, they do see Chicago as a place of wonderful attractions.

Interestingly, only 40 percent of the 15 surveyed students have a Chicago Public Library card. Those students who live in Chicago and don't have a library card miss a lot of fun.

For example, Chicago's adult residents may check out free museum passes at all Chicago Public Library (CPL) locations with a valid CPL card.